## CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATION

This application is a divisional of and claims priority to U.S. application No. 10/126,914, filed April 19, 2002, entitled "System and Method for Coupling and Redirecting Optical Energy Between Two Optical Waveguides Oriented at a Predetermined Angle," the entire contents of which are incorporated by reference. The present application claims priority to provisional patent application entitled "Right Angle Fiber Optic Cable Adapter," filed April 20, 2001 and assigned U.S. Application Serial No. 60/285,273. The entire contents of this provisional application are hereby incorporated by reference.

## In the Claims

Please cancel Claims 1-12 before calculating the filing fee in the above-styled patent application. Please keep Claims 13-17 pending and also add the following claims:

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Pending Claims:

Claims 1 -12 (Cancelled).

13. (Original) A method for coupling and redirecting optical energy between two optical waveguides oriented at a predetermined angle relative to each other, comprising the steps of:

receiving optical energy from a first optical waveguide (1520);

expanding the received optical energy into a collimated beam of optical energy with a first aspherical lens (1525);

propagating the collimated beam towards a reflecting device (1530);

redirecting the collimated beam with the reflecting device at a predetermined angle (1535);

focusing the reflected and collimated beam to a size appropriate for a second optical waveguide with a second aspherical lens (1540); and

propagating the focused optical energy away from the housing in the second optical waveguide (1545).

14. (Original) The method of claim 13, further comprising the steps of:

forming a liquid impervious and heat tolerant optical coupler by:

attaching the first optical waveguide to a first connector (1505); attaching the second optical waveguide to second connector (1505); attaching the first and second connectors to a housing (1507); attaching a first cover to the housing (1510); and

attaching a second cover to the housing (1515).

15. (Original) The method of claim 13, further comprising the steps of:

forming a liquid impervious and heat tolerant optical coupler by:

coupling first and second connectors to a housing (1505);

snapping a first cover to the housing (1510); and

snapping a second cover to the housing (1515).

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- 16. (Original) The method of claim 13, wherein the step of redirecting the collimated beam with the reflecting device at a predetermined angle further comprises redirecting the collimated beam with a mirror.
- 17. (Original) The method of claim 13, wherein the step of redirecting the collimated beam with the reflecting device at a predetermined angle further comprises redirecting the collimated beam at an angle comprising approximately ninety degrees.
- 18. (New) A method for redirecting optical energy between two optical waveguides, comprising: collimating a beam of optical energy from a first optical waveguide with a first aspherical lens;

directing the beam towards a reflector;

changing direction of the beam with the reflector at a predetermined angle;

sizing the beam with a second aspherical lens to a size appropriate for a second optical waveguide; and

directing the beam away from the second aspherical lens in the second optical waveguide.

19. (New) The method of claim 18, further comprising:

forming a liquid impervious and heat tolerant optical coupler by attaching the first optical waveguide to a first connector and attaching the second optical waveguide to a second connector.

- 20. (New) The method of claim 19, further comprising: attaching the first and second connectors to a housing; attaching a first cover supporting the reflector to the housing; and attaching a second cover to the housing.
- 21. (New) The method of claim 18, wherein changing the direction of the beam with the reflector at a predetermined angle further comprises changing the direction of the beam with a mirror.

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22. (New) The method of claim 18, wherein changing the direction of the beam with the reflector at a predetermined angle further comprises changing the direction of the beam with a mirror that comprises a reflectivity of less than one-hundred percent.

- 23. (New) The method of claim 18, wherein changing the direction of the beam with the reflector at a predetermined angle further comprises changing the direction of the beam with a mirror that comprises at least one reflective side.
- 24. (New) The method of claim 18, wherein changing direction of the beam with the reflector at a predetermined angle further comprises redirecting the beam at an angle comprising approximately ninety degrees.